

CTV 06-1, comments.



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

ERIC T. TURKINGTON  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
BARNSTABLE, DUKES &  
NANTUCKET DISTRICT

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CHAIRMAN  
Committee on Tourism, Arts  
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August 10, 2006

Judith Judson, Chairperson  
Department of Telecommunications and Energy  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
One South Station  
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Chairperson Judson:

I write to you today in opposition to the proposed revisions submitted by Verizon requesting significant reduction in the current local control in the cable television franchise process. The change that Verizon is requesting reduces the local official's ability to negotiate with video television providers for agreements that best serve their communities.

Cable franchising has been negotiated between the cable operator and municipalities for over forty years. This process has been beneficial for both the cable operator, and the community. Shortening the negotiation and approval time for municipalities will only interfere with, and or, eliminate the current successful process of cable franchising.

Changing the current cable television franchising process is not in the best interest of the municipality or the consumer. Keeping the control of franchising local has benefited cities, towns and consumers and should not be altered.

Thank you in advance for any attention given this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "ET" followed by a stylized flourish.

Eric T. Turkington  
State Representative

Barnstable, Dukes, & Nantucket District